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**U.S. Department of Justice**Office of Justice Programs
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



# OJJDP FY 2019 Addressing the Training Needs of Juvenile Prosecutors

**FY 2019 Competitive Grant Solicitation** 

CFDA #16.540 and 16.827

**Grants.gov Solicitation Number:** OJJDP-2019-14933

Solicitation Release Date: April 17, 2019

**Application Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. eastern time (ET) on June 17, 2019

The <u>U.S. Department of Justice</u> (DOJ), <u>Office of Justice Programs</u> (OJP), <u>Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention</u> is seeking applications for funding for the fiscal year (FY) 2019 Addressing the Training Needs of Juvenile Prosecutors Program. This program furthers the Department's mission to enhance public safety and reduce violence by supporting the prosecution of juvenile delinquency and enhancing the effectiveness of attorneys who investigate and prosecute juvenile cases.

This solicitation incorporates the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide by reference. The OJP Grant Application Resource Guide provides guidance to applicants on how to prepare and submit applications for funding to OJP. If this solicitation expressly modifies any provision in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide, the applicant is to follow the guidelines in this solicitation as to that provision.

#### **Eligibility** (Who may apply):

There are two categories of funding available as a part of this solicitation.

Category 1: Project Sites. Eligible applicants are limited to state (including territories) agencies responsible for administering, managing, or overseeing the training, education, and professional development needs of juvenile prosecutors.<sup>1</sup>

Category 2: Training and Technical Assistance. Eligibility is limited to national organizations that have, or are affiliated with one that has, broad membership among attorneys who prosecute

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Examples of eligible applicants include but are not limited to State Prosecutors' Coordinating Offices, State Prosecutors' Offices, State Prosecuting Attorneys' Coordinating Councils, State Attorney General's Offices, Attorneys' Services Councils, and Prosecutors' Councils. If designated by the state agency to serve in one of these capacities, a nonprofit organization may be eligible.

criminal cases in state courts and have demonstrated experience in providing training and technical assistance for juvenile prosecutors.

Award recipients from OJJDP's FY 2018 Addressing the Training Needs of Juvenile Prosecutors solicitation are ineligible to apply under Category 1.

All recipients and subrecipients (including any for-profit organization) must forgo any profit or management fee.

OJJDP will consider applications under which two or more entities would carry out the federal award; however, only one entity may be the applicant. Any others must be proposed as subrecipients (subgrantees). The applicant must be the entity that would have primary responsibility for carrying out the award, including administering the funding and managing the entire program. Under this solicitation, only one application by any particular applicant entity will be considered. An entity may, however, be proposed as a subrecipient (subgrantee) in more than one application. For additional information on subawards, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

OJJDP may elect to fund applications submitted under this FY 2019 solicitation in future fiscal years, dependent on, among other considerations, the merit of the applications and the availability of appropriations.

#### **Contact Information**

For technical assistance with submitting an application, contact the Grants.gov Customer Support Hotline at 800–518–4726 or 606–545–5035, at <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/support.html</a>, or at <a href="mailto:support@grants.gov">support@grants.gov</a>. The Grants.gov Support Hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, except on federal holidays.

An applicant that experiences unforeseen Grants.gov technical issues beyond its control that prevent it from submitting its application by the deadline must email the National Criminal Justice Reference Service Response Center (Response Center) at <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a> within 24 hours after the application deadline to request approval to submit its application after the deadline. Additional information on reporting technical issues appears under "Experiencing Unforeseen Grants.gov Technical Issues" in the How To Apply (Grants.gov) section in the <a href="mailto:OJPGrant Application Resource Guide">OJPGrant Application Resource Guide</a>.

For assistance with any other requirements of this solicitation, contact the Response Center by telephone at 800–851–3420 or TTY: 301–240–6310 (hearing impaired only) or by email at <a href="mailto:grants@ncjrs.gov">grants@ncjrs.gov</a>. Response Center hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET on the solicitation close date. General information on applying for OJJDP awards can be found at <a href="https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/funding.html">https://www.ojjdp.gov/funding/funding.html</a>. Answers to frequently asked questions that may assist applicants are posted at <a href="https://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2019/FAQ/JuvPros.pdf">https://www.ojjdp.gov/grants/solicitations/FY2019/FAQ/JuvPros.pdf</a>.

#### **Post-Award Legal Requirements Notice**

If selected for funding, in addition to implementing the funded project consistent with the OJP-approved application, the recipient must comply with all award conditions and all applicable requirements of federal statutes and regulations (including applicable requirements referred to in the assurances and certifications executed in connection with award acceptance). OJP strongly encourages prospective applicants to review information on post-award legal requirements and common OJP award conditions **prior** to submitting an application.

For additional information on these legal requirements, see the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

#### **Deadline Details**

Applicants must register with Grants.gov at <a href="https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html">https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/register.html</a> prior to submitting an application. All applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on June 17, 2019.

To be considered timely, an application must be submitted by the application deadline using Grants.gov, and the applicant must have received a validation message from Grants.gov that indicates successful and timely submission. OJP urges applicants to submit applications at least 72 hours prior to the application due date, to allow time for the applicant to receive validation messages or rejection notifications from Grants.gov, and to correct in a timely fashion any problems that may have caused a rejection notification.

An applicant must use the **Add Attachment** button to attach a file to its application. Do not click the paperclip icon to attach files. This action will not attach the files to the application. After adding an attachment, select the **View Attachment** button to confirm you attached the correct file. To remove the file, select the **Delete Attachment** button.

OJP encourages all applicants to read this <u>Important Notice: Applying for Grants in Grants.gov</u>.

For additional information, see the "How to Apply (Grants.gov)" section in the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

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# OJJDP FY 2019 Addressing the Training Needs of Juvenile Prosecutors

#### CFDA #16.540 and 16.827

## A. Program Description

#### Overview

OJJDP supports the efforts of states, tribes and communities to develop and implement effective and equitable juvenile justice systems that enhance public safety; ensure youth are held appropriately accountable to both crime victims and communities; and empower youth to live productive, law-abiding lives.

Prosecutors play a key role in ensuring an effective juvenile justice system. In most jurisdictions they support law enforcement, coordinate diversion programs, perform the charging function, participate in detention hearings, prosecute defendants in adjudicatory hearings, present the state's case for dispositions, and participate in discharge and recommitment hearings. Nationally, there are very limited resources available to state and local juvenile prosecution offices for necessary training, education and professional development. Furthermore, a need exists for the continued development and enhancement of national, state, and local standards and technical assistance to foster continuous improvement in the field.

The FY 2019 Addressing the Training Needs of Juvenile Prosecutors program is designed to fill the gaps noted above. This solicitation includes two categories of funding.

Category 1: Project Sites will provide funding to individual state agencies for training, education, and professional development of juvenile prosecutors. OJJDP will use this category to fund state agencies responsible for administering, managing, or overseeing the training, education, and professional development needs of juvenile prosecutors and their support staff in their jurisdictions. The field of juvenile prosecutors has a need for legal training because of the specialized nature of juvenile and family law. This funding will allow states to develop or supplement existing training and/or professional development that is tailored to the unique needs and challenges related to juvenile prosecution.

Category 2: National Training and Technical Assistance supports the development of a national training and technical assistance program to enhance juvenile prosecutors' abilities to prosecute and prevent juvenile crime in the United States. This program will provide training and technical assistance and other national-level resources to enhance the knowledge, skill level, and expertise of juvenile prosecutors in the United States through a comprehensive, coordinated, national training and technical assistance program. These funded services will promote a nationwide approach to juvenile justice that balances public safety, juvenile offender accountability to victims, and life-skill development in youth so that the justice system is equitable, fair, and just.

Applicants must clearly designate the category they are applying under. Each category requires a separate application, and OJJDP will not consider applications that combine different categories.

**Statutory Authority:** 34 U.S.C. § 11131; Department of Justice Appropriations Act, 2019, Pub. L. No. 116–6, 133 Stat. 13, 114-116, 119.

#### **Program-Specific Information**

State prosecutors, who are tasked with prosecuting juveniles, often encounter challenges and issues that are vastly different from those associated with the prosecution of adults due to the specialized nature of iuvenile court proceedings. The iuvenile prosecutor must often balance community safety, offender accountability to victims and communities, and the development of competencies for offenders to live productive, law-abiding lives. As a result, many procedures and practices in the juvenile courts require prosecutors to be oriented to their community and the unique developmental needs of young people, and to be proficient in juvenile and family law. The FY 2019 Addressing the Training Needs of Juvenile Prosecutors program will fund individual sites and a national training and technical assistance provider to support training and professional development and develop resources needed to ensure that juvenile prosecutors have access to information that addresses the unique framework of the juvenile court. At the state level, this program will address the need for more trainings and resources dedicated to familiarizing attorneys with special procedures and challenges that arise with juvenile prosecution. This involves more than training on trial techniques and procedural law, but also training on age-related characteristics of youth, assessing risk and protective factors for youth, and assessing readiness for rehabilitation.

At the national level, this program will also strengthen the prosecution of juvenile delinquency cases by providing training and technical assistance, developing and disseminating publications and other resources, and creating professional development opportunities for juvenile prosecutors and their support staff that will address the unique issues and challenges that juvenile prosecutors encounter. In addition, the program will elevate the national importance of juvenile prosecution as a practice specialty and encourage elected or appointed prosecutors across the nation to make juvenile court a priority within their offices.

This solicitation is supported in part with funds appropriated for a justice reinvestment initiative, which is intended to further the strengthening of police-community relations through criminal justice reform and recidivism reduction efforts

In many states, juvenile prosecutors are at the forefront of developing and implementing programs which show the most promise in reducing reoffending, and resulting in positive outcomes for juvenile offenders and their communities. Many juvenile prosecutors have partnered with courts, law enforcement, defenders and social service agencies to lead advancements in risk assessment, juvenile diversion, alternatives to detention and utilization of research-based and evidence-based juvenile programming. Through this solicitation, OJJDP seeks to increase the number of juvenile prosecutors that assume this leadership role in their states and communities, resulting in greater utilization of approaches that have been proven to reduce recidivism and contribute to system reform.

#### Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables

#### Category 1: Project Site Award

The goal of the Category 1 site award is to increase the capacity of juvenile prosecutors at the state and local levels by providing improved access to professional development opportunities, trainings, and resources that will enhance their current knowledge base and/or which address the unique issues of their states and communities. The program will strengthen juvenile prosecutors' ability to lead juvenile justice system improvements and implement strategies that have been shown to reduce offending and improve outcomes. Successful applicants should explain how their proposed activities will increase the capacity of prosecutors throughout the state who are charged with handling cases within the juvenile justice system.

Examples of activities that may be funded under Category 1 include but are not limited to:

- Revise and update the state/locality's current training curricula.
- Develop resources and tools essential for juvenile prosecutors and their support staff.
- Identify gaps and implement strategies to address professional development needs and training for juvenile prosecutors and their staff.
- Hire subject-matter experts to provide training and/or technical assistance.
- Develop/implement new training strategies and approaches which are based on research or promising findings.
- Develop or enhance current conference training tracks to specifically target and address unique issues and challenges that juvenile prosecutors and their staff encounter.
- Provide subgrants or travel funds for juvenile prosecutors and their staff to attend training events and other professional educational opportunities.
- Enhance peer-learning opportunities by establishing mentoring programs, learning collaboratives, or communities of practice for juvenile prosecutors.
- Develop training and professional development collaboratives composed of juvenile prosecutors and related professionals within the state.
- Develop materials and resources that identify solutions to common problems and best practices.

Applicants should provide examples of topics that could be addressed through the deliverables and how the applicant will contribute to strengthening and improving the role of juvenile prosecutors within their state.

#### Category 2: National Training and Technical Assistance Program

The goal for Category 2 is to establish a national training and technical assistance program designed to enhance juvenile prosecutors' abilities to lead juvenile justice system improvements in their states and communities, and to design and implement strategies that have been shown to reduce offending and improve outcomes for juveniles and the community.

This program will develop, test and implement an array of training curricula, technical assistance strategies, and other national-level resources through a comprehensive, coordinated, national program. Curricula, technical assistance and other resources should include subjects addressing professional practices and standards, as well as key and emerging issues within the juvenile justice field and impacted states and communities. These topics should include (but are not limited to):

- enhanced use of diversion, particularly for youth charged with misdemeanor and status offenses;
- development of restorative justice programs, diversion programs, and community-based programs;

- strengthened partnerships between prosecutors and other entities that serve youth (law enforcement, schools, human services, juvenile defenders, courts, local community agencies);
- greater reliance on appropriate screening and risk and needs assessments for youth;
- use of alternatives to detention when appropriate;
- addressing the needs dual-status youth;
- engaging families;
- addressing mental health and substance abuse treatment needs;
- · identifying strategies for prosecuting juvenile sex offenses;
- · identifying strategies for prosecuting youth-related gang offenses; and
- the use of evidence-based programs and strategies in the handling of juvenile offenders.

Prosecutors play a key role in ensuring an effective and fair juvenile justice system and have a crucial role in identifying and implementing strategies that have been shown to reducing juvenile recidivism and improving the juvenile justice system. As leaders within their states and communities, prosecutors have the ability to convene a multidisciplinary team of professionals within the juvenile justice system, and a unique opportunity to work with others in the field to make improvements to the system.

Specific objectives of this component include the support and development of:

- Training opportunities for juvenile prosecutors, their support staff, and allied criminal justice professionals.
- Technical assistance efforts for juvenile prosecutors, their support staff, and allied criminal justice professionals.
- Publications and resources for juvenile prosecutors, their support staff, and allied criminal justice professionals.

The successful applicant will develop plans for achieving the above objectives by designing and implementing the following activities:

- Training sessions (onsite, cross-site, telephone, web-based, etc.) for juvenile prosecutors and related criminal justice professionals at the national or regional level. In consultation with OJJDP, the applicant will propose the topics, types, quantity, duration, audiences, timing, and means of delivery of training sessions, and will identify trainers with relevant expertise and audiences with significant need. The applicant will include plans for evaluating training sessions, to include measuring changes in participants' knowledge, attitude, and behavior.
- Technical assistance at the national or regional level for juvenile prosecutors, their support staff, and allied criminal justice professionals.
- Publications and resources, including a practice handbook for juvenile prosecutors, to
  enhance the investigation and prosecution of juvenile crime. The applicant, in
  coordination with OJJDP, will indicate the topics, types, quantity, audiences, and
  production schedule for proposed publications, and will identify the authors and
  contributors. The applicant will create a plan, in coordination with OJJDP, to disseminate
  publications and measure their impact and, at a minimum, will collect data on the
  number disseminated, the number of times online versions are accessed, and the types
  of users. All publications are subject to OJJDP input and approval.

- Methods to provide ongoing project assessment related to training and technical assistance efforts.
- Special projects: OJJDP may require that the awardee conduct special projects or develop products in support of this cooperative agreement. For example, OJJDP may wish to convene a special working group or listening session to further enhance existing or develop new training curriculum for juvenile prosecutors in response to needs within the field of prosecuting juvenile crime, or develop a specific publication in response to a particular need identified by the prosecutor community during the course of the award. The awardee will work closely with the assigned OJJDP program manager on the development of any special projects, as needed.

The Goals, Objectives, and Deliverables are directly related to the performance measures that demonstrate the results of the work completed, as discussed under <a href="What an Application Should Include">What an Application Should Include</a>.

#### **Evidence-Based Programs or Practices**

OJP strongly emphasizes the use of data and evidence in policymaking and program development in criminal justice, juvenile justice, and crime victim services. For additional information and resources on evidence-based programs or practices, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide.

OJJDP training and technical assistance awardee standards. OJJDP has developed the Core Performance Standards for Training, Technical Assistance, and Evaluation to promote among providers the consistency and quality of OJJDP-sponsored training and technical assistance and to advance common expectations of performance excellence. The standards present minimum expectations that providers must meet for effective practice in the planning, coordination, delivery, and evaluation of training. Award recipients must coordinate with OJJDP's National Training and Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) in the assessment and delivery of services to ensure the effective use of OJJDP grant funding.

Requirements related to coordination of activities will include, but are not limited to:

- Coordination with OJJDP NTTAC. OJJDP requires all training and technical assistance
  projects to coordinate their activities with OJJDP NTTAC by complying with all
  OJJDP/NTTAC protocols to ensure coordinated delivery of services among providers and
  the effective use of OJJDP grant funding. OJJDP reserves the right to modify these
  protocols at any time with reasonable notice to the grantee prior to project completion.
- OJJDP-funded webinars. The award recipient must comply with OJJDP's Webinar
  Guidelines, as described in the core performance standards. Minimally, OJJDP training and
  technical assistance providers will submit information to OJJDP NTTAC in advance of all
  events for the online calendar, use the approved OJJDP presentation template, and record
  events and provide the final files which are compliant with Section 508 of the Workforce
  Rehabilitation Act to OJJDP or OJJDP's representative. For more information on Section
  508 of the Workforce Rehabilitation Act, visit www.section508.gov.
- Training information sharing. OJP will collect information from its program offices on OJP-funded training and technical assistance events. Award recipients must use OJJDP's standard electronic training request form, submit information to NTTAC on all training events

(e.g., name of requestor, description of request, dates of event) 30 days in advance of the event date, and report additional data, as OJJDP requires.

#### **Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities**

Applicants should note that OJP may conduct or support an evaluation of the programs and activities funded under this solicitation. For additional information, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide section titled "Information Regarding Potential Evaluation of Programs and Activities."

#### **B. Federal Award Information**

#### **Category 1: Project Sites**

Maximum number of awards OJJDP expects to make	Up to 5 awards
Estimated maximum dollar amount for each award	Up to \$225,000
Total amount anticipated to be awarded under solicitation	\$1,125,000
Period of performance start date	October 1, 2019
Period of performance duration	36 months

#### **Category 2: Training and Technical Assistance**

Maximum number of awards OJJDP expects to make	Up to 1 award
Estimated maximum dollar amount for each award	Up to \$875,000
Total amount anticipated to be awarded under solicitation	\$875,000
Period of performance start date	October 1, 2019
Period of performance duration	36 months

OJJDP may, in certain cases, provide additional funding in future years to awards made under this solicitation, through continuation awards. In making decisions regarding continuation awards, OJP will consider, among other factors, the availability of appropriations, when the program or project was last competed, OJP's strategic priorities, and OJP's assessment of both the management of the award (for example, timeliness and quality of progress reports) and the progress of the work funded under the award.

OJJDP has discretion when determining the number of awards to fund in each category, which may include not funding any applications from Category 2.

All awards are subject to the availability of appropriated funds and to any modifications or additional requirements that may be imposed by law.

#### Type of Award

OJJDP expects to make any award under this solicitation in the form of a cooperative agreement, which is a type of award that provides for OJP to have substantial involvement in carrying out award activities. See the "Administrative, National Policy, and Other Legal Requirements" section of the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for a brief discussion of important statutes, regulations, and award conditions that apply to many (or in some cases, all) OJP grants (and cooperative agreements).

Cooperative agreements include a condition in the award document that sets out the nature of the "substantial federal involvement" in carrying out the award and program. Generally stated,

under OJP cooperative agreement awards, responsibility for the day-to-day conduct of the funded project rests with the recipient. OJP, however, may have substantial involvement in matters such as substantive coordination of technical efforts and site selection, as well as review and approval of project work plans, research designs, data collection instruments, and major project-generated materials. In addition, OJP often indicates in the award terms and conditions that it may redirect the project if necessary.

In addition to an award condition that sets out the nature of the anticipated "substantial federal involvement" in the award, cooperative agreements awarded by OJP include an award condition that requires specific reporting in connection with conferences, meetings, retreats, seminars, symposia, training activities, or similar events funded under the award.

#### **Financial Management and System of Internal Controls**

Award recipients and subrecipients (including recipients or subrecipients that are pass-through entities) must, as described in the Part 200 Uniform Requirements<sup>2</sup> as set out at 2 C.F.R. 200.303, comply with standards for financial and program management. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information.

#### **Budget Information**

#### **Cost Sharing or Match Requirement**

This solicitation does not require a match. However, if a successful application proposes a voluntary match amount, and OJP approves the budget, the total match amount incorporated into the approved budget becomes mandatory and subject to audit.

#### **Preagreement Costs (also known as Preaward Costs)**

Preagreement costs are costs incurred by the applicant prior to the start date of the period of performance of the federal award.

OJP does **not** typically approve preagreement costs; an applicant must request and obtain the prior written approval of OJP for all such costs. All such costs incurred prior to award and prior to approval of the costs are incurred at the sole risk of the applicant. (Generally, no applicant should incur project costs **before** submitting an application requesting federal funding for those costs.) Should there be extenuating circumstances that make it appropriate for OJP to consider approving preagreement costs, the applicant may contact the point of contact listed on the title page of the solicitation for the requirements concerning written requests for approval. If approved in advance by OJP, award funds may be used for preagreement costs, consistent with the recipient's approved budget and applicable cost principles. See the section on Costs Requiring Prior Approval in the DOJ Grants Financial Guide (Post award Requirements section) at <a href="https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm">https://ojp.gov/financialguide/DOJ/index.htm</a> for more information.

#### Limitation on Use of Award Funds for Employee Compensation; Waiver

For applicants seeking the waiver, see the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The "Part 200 Uniform Requirements" means the DOJ regulation at 2 C.F.R Part 2800, which adopts (with certain modifications) the provisions of 2 C.F.R. Part 200.

#### Prior Approval, Planning, and Reporting of Conference/Meeting/Training Costs

OJP strongly encourages every applicant that proposes to use award funds for any conference, meeting-, or training-related activity (or similar event) to review carefully—before submitting an application—the OJP and DOJ policy and guidance on approval, planning, and reporting of such events. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information.

#### **Costs Associated With Language Assistance (if applicable)**

See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for information on costs associated with language assistance that may be allowable.

# **C.** Eligibility Information

For eligibility information, see the title page.

For information on cost sharing or match requirements, see <u>Section B. Federal Award</u> Information.

### **D.** Application and Submission Information

#### What an Application Should Include

For this solicitation, OJJDP has designated the following application elements as critical: Program Narrative, Budget Detail Worksheet, and Budget Narrative.

See the "Application Elements and Formatting Instructions" section of the <u>OJP Grant Application</u> Resource <u>Guide</u> for information on, among other things, what happens to an application that does not contain all of the specified elements or that is nonresponsive to the scope of the solicitation.

#### 1. Complete the Application for Federal Assistance (Standard Form (SF)-424)

The SF-424 is a required standard form used as a cover sheet for submission of preapplications, applications, and related information. See the OJP Grant Application Resource Guide for additional information on completing the SF-424.

**Intergovernmental Review:** Awards under Category 1 of this solicitation ("funding opportunity") **are** subject to the requirements of <u>Executive Order 12372</u>. (In completing the SF-424, an applicant is to answer question 19 by selecting the response that the "Program is covered by E.O. 12372.") Awards under Category 2 are not subject to the requirements of the Executive Order.

#### 2. Project Abstract

Applications should include a high-quality project abstract that summarizes the proposed project in 400 words or less. Project abstracts should be—

- Written for a general public audience.
- Submitted as a separate attachment with "Project Abstract" as part of its file name.
- Single-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (such as Times New Roman) with 1-inch margins.